

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

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R 281442Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4339

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMA KO 2609

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, ML

SUBJ: MALI-LABOR AND POLITICS

1. CHARGE TALKED JULY 28 WITH SEYDOU DIALLO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATIONAL UNION OF MALIAN WORKERS ABOUT LABOR'S RELATIONS WITH THE RULING MILITARY COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION. DIALLO SAID THAT AFTER THE MAY DAY PARADE, WHEN HE HAD MADE HIS SPEECH CITING THE NECESSITY OF STAMPING OUT THE "NASCENT BOURGEOISIE", THERE WAS A TERRIBLE ROW WITH THE COMMITTEE--DIALLO HAD RESIGNED, THE COMMITTEE HAD DRAWN UP THE PAPERS ABOLISHING THE UNION (AS IT HAD DONE IN 1974), AND THREATS HAD BEEN MADE AGAINST DIALLO. THE NASCENT BOURGEOISIE WAS, EXPLAINED DIALLO, A REFERENCE TO THE RAMPANT CORRUPTION IN MALI, PARTICULARLY AMONG MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

2. DIALLO SAID THE "BAGARERE" HAD LASTED ABOUT TWO WEEKS, BUT HAD BEEN RESOLVED AND THEY WERE BACK TO NORMAL. DIALLO ASKED RHETORICALLY--WHO BESIDES THE UNION COULD SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE CORRUPTION THAT
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WAS NOW SO OBVIOUS IN MALI?

3. CHARGE ASKED DIALLO ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S LONG-PLANNED MOVE TO FORM A NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY. (THIS REQUIRED EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE UNION WHOSE SUPPORT IS CRUCIAL.) DIALLO SAID THE PARTY WOULD BE ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 22 INDEPENDENCE DAY. ALL THE STATUTES HAD BEEN DRAWN UP, THE PAPERS PRINTED, PROPAGANDA MATERIAL IN PLACE, ETC.

4. COMMENT: DIALLO'S PROBLEMS WITH THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ARE FAR FROM OVER. THE CORRUPTION ISSUE MAY BE COMING TO FORE IN MALI AND COULD WELL BE THE GRIEVANCE AROUND WHICH A NEW COUP PLOT MIGHT FORM. PUBLIC REACTION TO THE PARTY WILL BE AN IMPORTANT INDICATOR OF THE REGIME'S ABILITY TO CONTINUE IN POWER.
DAWKINS

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